

# AmeriCorps Funding Crisis – Bulletin #6, July 10, 2003

The Michigan Nonprofit Association is holding a press conference on Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Detroit Lions Academy in Detroit. See the attached media advisory for details.

## **The National News**

- The Senate Appropriations Committee passed a \$100 million supplemental for AmeriCorps as part of the Legislative Appropriations bill. (This bill also includes President Bush's \$1.9 billion FEMA supplemental.) As of 3:30 p.m. today, it has not been voted on by the full Senate.
- The House has passed the Legislative Appropriations bill. It did not include a supplemental for AmeriCorps nor did it include the FEMA supplemental.
- The national web site, [www.saveamericorps.org](http://www.saveamericorps.org), continues to be a good resource.
- *In the news. . .*
  - The Washington Post ran a story today on the Senate appropriation for AmeriCorps mentioned above. [Click here](#) to view the article.
  - Congressman Joe Walsh of New York distributed a media release today denouncing an AmeriCorps supplemental. It is attached for your information.

## **The Statewide News**

- The Michigan Nonprofit Association is hosting a press conference on Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Detroit Lions Academy (1745 Hancock) in Detroit. Speakers at the press conference will discuss the impact of the cuts on those served by the AmeriCorps program, specifically addressing the impact on Michigan students, schools, families, neighborhoods and the environment. During the press conference speakers will release new data on the depth of the cuts. See attached media advisory for details.
- The Michigan Public Policy Initiative, a program of the Michigan Nonprofit Association, has information available on their web site at <http://www.mnaonline.org/ameriCorps.htm>. For more information via email, contact Erin Skene at [skeneeri@mnaonline.org](mailto:skeneeri@mnaonline.org).
- [Click here](#) to receive more information on the issue at the Michigan Community Service Commission web site.

## **Background Information**

Three issues are impacting Michigan's AmeriCorps programs:

1. Michigan's AmeriCorps program funding is being cut from \$6.2 million to \$900,000.
2. The balance in the Education Award Trust will not support President Bush's call for 75,000 members.
3. A cap has been placed on the number of AmeriCorps members who can enroll nationwide.

These issues are a result of accountability gaps on the part of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency that oversees AmeriCorps funding, and the subsequent response of the U.S. Congress.